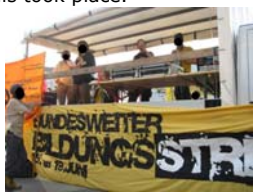
Germany

Heidelberg: The Global Week of Action was kicked off with a demonstration for a ban on tuition fees, free access to public education for all and democratic structures at institutions of higher education. It was attended by more than 500 people and was followed by a general assembly (20/04). On Wednesday (22/04) the „global flashmob" with about 100 students and pupils took place.





Münster: With a mobile sound system and many flyers students across the campus were informed about the week of action. During the coming days a protest camp was arranged in front of the castle (21-24/04) during which workshops focussing on public education took place.



Hamburg: An alternative programme with seminars and workshops was organized with various smaller actions on campus of the University of Hamburg. The local week of action ended with a demonstration on Friday (24/04), which was attended by 600 people. As part of the protests the administrative building was occupied for a short period of time (23/04). Especially the faculties of pedagogics, sport and psychology are struggling against budget cuts. During a public seminar at the city centre the police recorded the details of the professor and 6 students (out of 50) and confiscated a banner.

Marburg: Alternative seminars were arranged, which discussed the Bologna process and the function of higher education. A "global flashmob" with about 50 mobbers took place as well (22/04). During the week information booths were set up on campus and the city center.







Further acts of protest took place in **Frankfurt/M**, **Oldenburg**, **Hildesheim**, **Potsdam** and **Leipzig**.

Croatia

Zagreb: The „Independent Student Initiative for the Right to Free Education" occupied the Faculty of Philosophy (20/04). Exams and Seminars had to give way for an alternative agenda consisting of discussions on education, as well as presentations and alternative movie displays.

On the banner it says:
"***One World – One Struggle; Education is not for sale!***"
in Croatian.



Protests soon spread to **Zadar**, **Rijeka**, **Split**, **Osijek**, **Pula**, **Varaždin** & **Slavonski Brod**. 20 faculties across Croatia were occupied for a whole month. Local unions & professors are supporting the movement.

Finland

Tampere: The Global Week of Action was accompanied by various acts of protest on campus. The main university building was also occupied during one night (22-23/04). This was also directed against the Bologna process and the commercialisation of education in general. The occupiers expressed their solidarity with those struggling in Croatia. Protests also took place in **Jyväskylä** and **Helsinki**.



"***University belongs to everyone!***" in Finnish.

Austria

On two days (20 + 24/04) tens of thousands of students and pupils went on strike against the commercialisation of education and the plans to cut school-free days. In **Vienna**, **Oberösterreich**, **Innsbruck**, **Salzburg** and **Dornbirn** each alone thousands took to the streets. On Friday 25,000 people protested in Vienna and 60,000 across Austria.





Bangladesh

Dhaka: Up to 600 people followed the call for a rally against the commercialisation of education and for a free, secular and scientific public education system by the "Bangladesh Student Union" (BSU) on Sunday (26/04).



Catalonia/Spain

Sabadell: To fight back against the privatisation of education, 100 students coming from 4 universities occupied the „l'Escola Industrial College" in the city centre for 3 days (20-22/04). With this action they tried to spread awareness regarding the negative impacts of recent educational reforms. During the night of April 22nd the „Menéndez y Pelayo College" was occupied as well. 24hrs later it was evicted again with police brutality.
Several other occupations also took place in **Barcelona** during the Global Week of Action; among the targets was a bank and the Catalonian ministry of education. Both were occupied on Tuesday (28/04).

Belgium

Brussels: More than 200 „education activists" from across Europe gathered here for a „counter-summit" in connection with the „Ministerial Bologna Conference" (24-27/04). Together they occupied a building at the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) for two nights. On Tuesday (28/04) more buses arrived from France, Denmark and other countries to unite in the forenoon with 600 people for an international demonstration in **Leuven** (venue of the ministers) and later for one in Brussels with 4,000 protesters for free education.

Ten people were arrested as a result of a police attack during the demonstration in Leuven. Only one day later close to 400 people from France, Catalonia/Spain, Germany, Belgium, the UK, Denmark, Italy and the Netherlands protested at the second venue of the ministers meeting in **Louvain la Neuve**. The globalisation of protest continues!!







U. S. A.

Vermont: To protest against the forthcoming lay-offs and budget cuts more than 100 students and staff occupied the presidents' office of the University of Vermont (UVM) (22/04). He was not willing to negotiate with the sit-inners and left the building. A few hours later 34 protesters were arrested. Hundreds gathered in front of the building in support. Dozens of students also protested on campuses in **New York** (22/04) and **Allentown** (24/04) against increases in tuition fees and budget cuts.





Denmark

Copenhagen: After the „global flashmob" with more than 200 people students occupied the administrative building of the Copenhagen University (22/04). The echo by the national press was huge, just like in Croatia. Just before going down to Belgium for the "counter-summit" the occupiers left the building again on Friday (24/04). This was the first university occupation that lasted for more than two days within the past 20 years in Denmark.





Serbia

Belgrade: Some 100 students gathered in front of a banner saying "One World, One Struggle. Education is NOT for sale!" at the Faculty of Philosophy to protest against the increase of tuition fees and the ongoing neoliberal reforms on higher education. Speeches were held on the struggles of colleagues around the world, stressing the current struggle in Croatia. After the protest the amphitheatre in the faculty was occupied and an open meeting with some fifty colleagues too place. This was only a first step in creating a long-term campaign against the neoliberal reforms on education in Serbia.

Further protests during the Global Week of Action took place in **MOROCCO** (Casablanca), the **UK** (Lewisham, Sheffield), **POLAND** (Wroclaw, Gdańsk, Poznań), **NORWAY** (Trondheim) and **AUSTRALIA** (Perth), **SOUTH AFRICA** (Cape Town), **JAPAN** (Tokyo) and **ARGENTINA** (Buenos Aires).

For more information access: **emancipating–education–for–all.org**

Overview of Protests & Actions during the

„Reclaim your Education

-

Global Week of Action"

[20 – 29/04/2009]

This is an attempt to summarize the protests and actions during the Global Week of Action. So far groups in more than 50 cities in close to 20 countries on 5 continents published a summary of their local happenings. With this week of action people around the world united for a second time (the „International Day of Action against the Commercialisation of Education" on Nov. 5th 2008 being the first time) to fight against the commercialisation and privatisation of public education. The forces causing these developments are located on the global level (unleashed by global competition) and can therefore only be effectively countered by a globally united movement!
With each internationally co-ordinated protest this movement gets stronger! Activists are currently considering to call for the next Global Week of Action in Nov. 2009! ***Intervene*** and ***get involved***!!

[**united.for.education@gmail.com – emancipating-education-for-all.org**]